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JAMAICA PLAIN: COLLECTED BIBLIOGRAPHIES

Compiled by the Boston Landmarks Commission, 1983, as part of the Jamaica Plain Preservation Survey, funded in part by a matching grant-in-aid from the Department of Interior, National Park Service, through the Massachusetts Historical Commission, Office of the Secretary of State, under the provisions of the National Park Service.

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Due to funding limitations, no exhaustive and integrated bibliography has been prepared.

- I. These References were collected for Boston 200, the City's official bicentennial celebration by VISION, INC. and reflect materials in the Boston Public Library Collection.
- II. This bibliography is from the Final Report of the Boston Landmarks Commission: Architectural and Historic Surveys Jamaica Plain chapter, by Cynthia Zaitzevsky, 1970.
- III. These references were collected for a preservation planning class at Boston University, 1977.
- IV. These references were collected by the consultants for the current study.

OLD ROXBURY: ROXBURY, JAMAICA PLAIN, WEST ROXBURY, AND ROSLINDALE

New Address
VISION, INC.
2 Hubbard Park
Cambridge, Massachusetts 02138

BROOK FARM

A Century of Ministry and Mercy at Brook Farm 1871-1971; Lutheran Works of Mercy.

Historical Papers and Annual Reports of Lutheran Works of Mercy, 670 Baker St., West Roxbury.

Map of Brook Farm.

Pictures of Lost Landmarks 1678-1800 (built), Ellen M. Feeny, Historical Society.

BOOKS

Drake, Francis S. History of Roxbury (1878); kept in rare book department-K. 68.12. Three copies - 6350a.41; one of which is B.H. ref. 562.1.34; two copies - G.293.1.34. Good general source.

Ellis, Charles Mayo. The History of Roxbury Town (1847 - 146 pp.). Good general source. 2358.84 - B.4129.59.

May, Henry Ashley, Compiler. Roxbury, West Roxbury, Jamaica Plain- Eighteen scrap books with historical and biographical articles (1890-1901). H.80.217

Swift, Lindsay. Live memories of dead days in Boston. Simple beliefs and customs of ancient Roxburgers recalled for the amusement of their progeny. Cut from The Roxbury Chronicle, 1917, 6 pp. H.80.267.

MacElaney, Hugh J., ed., Roxbury, Past and Present. Written by Dudley School boys (1918, 98pp.). With plates and maps and illustrations. 4359.68.

Lang, William Bailey. Highland Cottages, views with ground plans (1845, nine plates with a short description). 8091.76.

NEWSPAPERS

Roxbury Advertiser, The [Weekly]. Volume 1 (No. 3, 6, 7, 9, 10, 14-16, 18) etc. April 4, 1846 - December 29, 1848. First called The Mutual Advertiser. N.1169.14.

Roxbury Citizen. January 4, 1939-(Weekly). Microfilm AN2.M4R7.

The Roxbury Almanac and Business Directory. 1847, 1848, 1850, 1852, 1854, 1856, 1858, 1862, 1864, 1866. F74.R9A18.

Roxbury Gazette and South End Advertiser. January 2, 1942-(weekly) Microfilm AN2.M4R71.

Roxbury Town Records (1648-1849). Roxbury reels #217-218 (1648-1849). West Roxbury reels #222-225 (1851-1874). Microfilm F73.B7.

Rare Book Room-Boston Public Library

Order of Exercises, at the celebration of the completion of two centuries, since the settlement of Roxbury. At Reverenc Dr. Porter's meeting house October 8, 1830. Single sheet. XH.80.225 no. 14.

Roxbury Centennial-November 22, 1876 (1877-104p). F74.R9R9

Roxbury. Mayor-Address to the City Council. 1848, 1851, 1852, 1854, 1857, 1860, 1865, 1867. 6341.1

Roxbury. Commissioners on the subject of the subject of the union of the cities of Boston: Roxbury. (1867-20pp.). 4455.152 (city document no. 3).

Roxbury Grammar School. Dillaway, Charles Knapp, "The Free School of 1645 in Roxburie" (1860, 202pp.). 2D7501.r8568.

Business Directories

Environs of Boston, Almanac and Business Directory(1849). George Adams(publisher). Ads, brief descriptions of environs; Dorchester, Roxbury(and Forest Hills Cemetery), Brookline, Brighton, Cambridge, Medford, etc. Not Jamaica Plain, Roslindale(too early). (1848 and 1850 not on shelves). 44892.5.

Blue Book-With some ads, lists who lives on what streets-by street; Roxbury, Jamaica Plain, West Roxbury, and Highland Station. 1895 Blue Book not on shelves. 1899-2358.72

Blue Book of Roxbury; all of the above towns plus Roslindale and Dorchester. 1915 23592.142.

The Roxbury Directory, George Adams. Neither 1850 nor 1852 on shelves. F74.R9A18

Maps

Map 81.36, 1888. Birds eye ciew of Boston Highlands Wards 19-22(1888) G.H. Bailey and Company. 30"x36". Shows all buildings in town from above, with numbered key below of many. Pictures(approximately 3" square) all around edge of major churches and factories.

Map 81.36.1849. Map of Roxbury with engravings of all churches at top and bottom. Whitney, Charles. (1849). Very good condition, laquer colored. Shows houses, etc. by black squares: no names of buildings. 24"x30".

Map 81.3.1867. Plan of Boston: Roxbury. N. Henry Crafts, city engineer. 36"x40". Has major public buildings; names all wharves. Scale-500' to 1" (1867).

Map 81.3.1907. Dorchester, Roxbury, and West Roxbury-Boston Suburban Book Co. - very detailed streets, shows Jamaica Plain, Roslindale. 1907. 1200 feet = one inch.

Map 81.36.1832. Map of Roxbury, John G. Hales, surveyor, selectmen, publisher. 100 rods = one inch. Shows churches, some industries (1832)

D. Annotated Bibliography

1. PRIMARY SOURCES

a. City Records, Published and Unpublished

Boston Architect Department, Annual Reports, 1891-94, Boston, Mass. (FA 2635.2 - Fine Arts Library, Harvard) Reports for the years when E. M. Wheelwright was City Architect. Contains documentation and illustration for municipal buildings erected in Jamaica Plain during this four-year period, including several schools, the Jamaica Pond boathouse and an addition to the Police Headquarters.

Boston Board of Street Commissioners, Boston's Streets, Avenues, Courts and Places, Boston, 1912. (Athenaeum - Reference Dept.) Important for reconstructing street development. This particular edition gives histories as well as locations of streets.

Boston Building Department. Original permits to build and permits for remodelling. The permits begin about 1875, but they are not very complete for the Jamaica Plain area until the 1890's.

b. Maps and Atlases

Map of Roxbury, 1832. John G. Hales. Reproduced in Drake (see below, under Secondary Sources) opp. p. 42 and on microfilm in the BRA Map Department. A detail of the latter is reproduced as Map II-2 of this report. This appears to be the earliest detailed map of Roxbury (which then included West Roxbury). Buildings are indicated but ownership is given for only a few.

Map of Roxbury, 1843. Charles Whitney. (Harvard College Library Map Room). An excellent detailed map showing considerably more development than in 1832 (probably the effect of the Boston and Providence railroad, which opened in 1835). Shows buildings but ownership is generally not given; types of public buildings are indicated. This map was revised in 1849, and a copy of the revised 1849 Whitney map is located in the Boston Public Library Rare Book Department.

Atlases of Roxbury (necessary for Area 4, which is historically part of Roxbury). Published in 1873 (Hopkins), 1884, 1888, 1889, 1895, 1899, 1906, 1915, 1931 (all Bromley). These Atlases are found in the Boston Athenaeum, the Boston Public Library Rare Book Department, the Harvard College Library Map Room and the Boston Building Department.

Atlases of West Roxbury. Published in 1874 (Hopkins), 1884, 1890, 1890, 1914 and 1924 (all Bromley). These Atlases are located in the libraries and city department listed above.

Resources on Jamaica Plain to be found in Jamaica Plain

Library, Sedgewick Rd., J.P.

* indicates source material which is especially useful

HISTORY: General & Specific

- * 1) Drake, Francis, The Town of Roxbury, Roxbury, 1878.
- 2) Austin, Arthur W., Address at the Dedication of the Town Hall at Jamaica Plain, West Roxbury, (1868)
(very amusing writing style)
- 3) Boyd, Eva, "Jamaica Plain, By Way of London," Old Time New England, April-June, 1959.
(History of Loring Family, 1750-on, photo of house, 1760)
- * 4) "Historic Sites - West Roxbury district", publ, 1907.
Paragraph descriptions.
- 5) "History of Boylston Schul Verein", publ. 1924.
(A club for German descendants to stimulate an interest in government & to teach German; mostly in German; English synopsis p. 29)
- 6) "The Founders of the Third Parish in Jamaica Plain: Who they were and where they lived in 1769"
- 7) "History of First Church, Unitarian", 6 Eliot St. (1769-)
(No pictures; 3 pages of description)
- 8) Series of Articles: "Our Historical Background, Roslindale Telegram, 1936.
- * 9) Whitcomb, Harriet M., "Annals & Reminiscences of Jamaica Plain," , 1897.
(Covers most old houses)

CONTEMPORARY ACCOUNTS: Pamphlets, newspaper articles, etc.

- 10) "Jamaica Plain - It Has Everything", Boston Post, 1/6/1844.
(poor reproduction; decaying original...good article)
- 11) "The Old Home Town"- Description of Jamaica Plain, with "cartoon" illustrations, Boston Sunday Post, 12/5/1943
- 12) Newspapers on microfilm: 1898-99; 1901-3.
- 13) List of 99 Ways of Spelling Jamaica Plain, 1886.
- * 14) Brookline, Jamaica Plain & West Roxbury Directory, 1868
(listing of people living in town, businesses; advertisements of businesses, excellent fold-out map)

MAP

1868 Map of Jamaica Plain, with houses on it.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Jamaica Plain, Massachusetts

This listing includes materials available at the Boston Public Library, Copley Square, and when noted, at Jamaica Plain Branch Library, and at the Boston Redevelopment Authority Library.

GENERAL PLANNING DOCUMENTS (all at BRA)

- B65R General Neighborhood Renewal Plan, BRA, 1962
Sum Jamaica Plain Summary
- B65R Jamaica Plain : Survey & Planning Application,
Sur Jamaica Plain Renewal Area, n.d.
- B65R Jamaica Plain Community Organizations, c. 1965
Comp O
- B65R J. Boland & R. Cady. Housing Market Study-Jamaica
H Plain Housing Market Study, n.d.
- B65R Jamaica Plain, General Neighborhood Renewal Plan, 1965
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- B65R Draft Jamaica Plain-Parker Hill Planning District, n.d.
In
- B65R Jamaica Plain. Background & History, n.d.
It
- B65R Jamaica Plain Real Estate Analysis 1953-1955, n.d.
J
- S51 Larry Smith & Co., Economic Analysis, Jamaica Plain
E GNRP Area, prepared for BRA, 1964
- B65R Code Enforcement Program - Jamaica Plain, 1965
Cod
- B65R Jamaica Plain, Community Conservation Program -
Com C Application for Federal Grants
- J62 Application for Federal Grants under the Provisions of
BRA neighborhood improvement program, community facilities,
open space land and urban beautification and improvement-
Jamaica Plain, n.d.

Lamb, Martha J., The Homes of America, New York, 1879. (FA 1633.3 - Fine Arts Library, Harvard) Description and sketch illustration of Pinebank III, pp. 189-192. Describes the steps from the John Hancock House. Description and sketch illustration of the Francis Parkman House (demolished), pp. 192-194. Architects not given for either house.

Magazine of Horticulture, vol. 22, 1856, p. 431. (Library of the Massachusetts Horticultural Society) Records a visit to Pinebank II and mentions the fact that the architect was Lemoulnier.

Seaver, Fred, "The Founders and Incorporators of the Third Parish in Jamaica Plain, who they were and where they lived in 1769," Jamaica Plain, Mass., 1917. (Boston Public Library, Jamaica Plain Branch) Short but useful study based on deed research. End-leaf is a reproduction of part of Hale's 1832 map with the houses of the 27 founders of the parish numbered and identified.

Smith, Larry and Co., Economic Analysis: Jamaica Plain GMRP Area, prepared for the Boston Redevelopment Authority, New York, 1964. (BRA Library) Detailed economic analysis of Jamaica Plain (excludes Areas 1 and 8 in this report). Limited value for a study of architectural history.

Warner, Sam B., Jr., Streetcar Suburbs, The Process of Growth in Boston, 1870-1900, Cambridge, Mass., 1962, second edition in 1969 as an Athenaeum paperback. Deals with the residential development and growth of Roxbury, Dorchester and West Roxbury from 1870-1900. This study, which was based on a very detailed analysis of the records of the Boston Building Department, is very helpful for understanding development patterns. Its usefulness is limited, however, by the fact that it covers a large district of which Jamaica Plain is just a part, it covers only thirty years, and it discusses only residential building.

Whitcomb, Harriet Manning, Annals and Reminiscences of Jamaica Plain, Cambridge, Mass., 1897. (US 13314.5 - Widener; Boston Public Library, Jamaica Plain Branch) Brief history of the area told in anecdotal style.

b. Unpublished

Boston Historical Conservation Committee. Unpublished records of survey work in Jamaica Plain. (Boston Athenaeum) Some of the most outstanding buildings in the area were photographed and partially documented. Also includes an outline of historical development of area.

Warner, Sam B., Jr., "The Residential Development of Roxbury, West Roxbury and Dorchester, Massachusetts, 1870-1900. Doctoral dissertation, Harvard University, 1959. (Harvard University Archives) Thesis on which Streetcar Suburbs was based. Contains some information, illustration, maps etc. not found in Streetcar Suburbs.

IV. Additions to Jamaica Plain Bibliography

- Annual Reports of the Managers of the Adams Nervine Asylum. Boston.
- Atlas of Dorchester, West Roxbury, and Brighton. 1899. Published
by L.J. Richards, as J.P. Brown & Co. Boston.
- Boston Landmarks Commission. Study Report for Adams Nervine Asylum.
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- Glimpses of Early Roxbury. Mary Warren Chapter D.A.R. in Commonwealth
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- Johnson, Roy. "Old Curtis Farm, Jamaica Plain Mansion has 18th
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the Old Meeting House at Jamaica Plain, West Roxbury,
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- Sayles, Adelaide B. The St. Area and the Children's Museum. Boston:
Press of Geo H. Ellis Co., Inc. 1937.

Victorian Boston Today. Pauline Chase Harrell and Margaret Supplee
Smith, editors. New England Chapter of the Victorian
Society in America. Boston. 1975.

Whitney, Charles. Map of Roxbury. 1843.

Zaitzevsky, Cynthia. Frederick Law Olmsted and the Boston Park
System. The Belknap Press of Harvard University Press.
Massachusetts
Cambridge and London. 1982.

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- B65R Jamaica Plain Neighborhood Improvement Program, n.d.
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- B65R Jamaica Plain-Mission Hill, Parks Study, Draft, BRA
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- B65R Cabot Estate Studies, n.d.
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- B65R Cabot Estate Open Space Task Force Report, 1971
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- B65R Cabot Estate - Summary of Alternative Development
CaS Schemes, n.d.
- R21 Replacement of the Agassiz/Old Agassiz Elementary
BRA3 Schools, BRA, May, 1965
- R61 Hughes, John T., Jr. A Police Station for the Con-
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Submitted in partial fulfillment of the requirements
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TRANSPORTATION (all at BRA)

- T10 Jamaica Plain Community Council. Impact of the Proposed
J Expressway on Jamaica Plain, January, 1968.
- T40 Tippetts-Abbett-McCarthy-Stratton. Roxbury-Jamaica Plain
T499R (Boston), Mass. Areawide TOPICS Plain, No. 40. Prepared
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Chestnut Hill, MA., Sept. 1972.
- D40 Boston's Southwest Corridor Development Potential;
B65R analysis and projection of the social & economic
B impact, August 1974.

MISCELLANEOUS (all at BRA)

- B65G.B Boston Globe. Boston's Neighborhoods, n.d.
C.1
- C436 Centre St., An Exhibit & Fair by the Boston Childrens
C Museum, 1975
- R37 Jamaica Plain Community Council Youth Committee.
J How does Jamaica Plain provide for its youth? A survey
of youth programs in Jamaica Plain. Boston, 1967.

NEWSPAPERS, NEWSLETTERS, ETC. (all at BPL, Copley Sq.)

- HT101.J35 Jamaica Plain Area Planning Action Council, (v.1-)
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- AN2 Jamaica Plain Press. November 2, 1939 - ,incomplete
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- AN2 Jamaica Plain News. (v.27, no.5) February 4, 1899 -
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- AN2 The Jamaica Plain Citizen. (v.3, Jan.5, 1939) - ,
.M4J35 incomplete weekly journal

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Clubs & Organizations

- HV878.B35 Balch, Marion C. History of the Jamaica Plain
Neighborhood House Association.. Jamaica Plain, 1953.
- 7575.100 Jamaica Plain Friendly Society. 19th Annual Report, 1893.
- 5589.269 Jamaica Plain Club, By-Laws. 1896
- 5589.270 Jamaica Plain Tuesday Club, Year Book 1898/99-1902/03.
- JP Branch History of Boylston Schul Verein, 1924
(document on organization promoting items for
German descendants, English synopsis, p. 29)

Directories

2359a.142 Blue Book of Roxbury & Dorchester. Boston, 1915.
(includes J.P.)

2358.72 Blue Book of Roxbury, Jamaica Plain & West Roxbury,
North Cambridge, 1899. (includes maps & plans)

JP Branch Brookline, Jamaica Plain & West Roxbury Directory, 1868.

F73.22.B8 The Boston Blue Book. 1876-1937. Boston. (1881 & 1882
include J.P.)

General

C635 Architectural & Historic Surveys including Jamaica Plain.
B2 Boston Landmarks Commission. Vol. 1. 1970.
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F74.J3J35x Boston 200 Neighborhood Histories Project. Jamaica Plain, 1976.
(at BRA,
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6350a.41.34, Drake, F. S. The Town of Roxbury. Boston 1905
G293.1.34,
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Boston, 1855-56.

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Loring - Greenough Families

F73.68 Boyd. E. P. "Garden Pagaent: The Place Remembers,
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Graphics

Map 81.38.1855.2 Plan of House Lots located on Jamaica Plain
 belonging to estate of John Door, 1855, Boston.

Map 81.38.1891 Bailey & Co. Jamaica Plain, Mass. Ward 23, City
 of Boston, 1891.

8066.123 Davis, G. A. A Collection of Drawings. Boston 1836.
 (includes several views of Jamaica Plain)

Cab.23.50.4 Hess, Chas. "E. Wanckels Estate at Jamaica Plain," 1856
 (contemporary lithograph)

Histories of specific churches and parishes are to be found at
BPL and its JP Branch under precise names

c. Prints and old photographs

The collections at the Society for the Preservation of New England Antiquities, the Boston Athenaeum, the Boston Public Library Print Room and the Boston Public Library, Jamaica Plain Branch contain a few prints and many 19th-century and early 20th-century photographs of Jamaica Plain. A selection of these illustrates this report.

d. Architects' drawings and other Archival Material

The N. J. Bradlee Collection at the Boston Athenaeum contains 70 pages of drawings for the Unitarian Church in Jamaica Plain (vol. 2, 1854, 135-205). Also drawings for a house for J. W. Seaver in Jamaica Plain, probably located on Morton Street and demolished (vol. 21, 1870), and drawings for a library for C. H. Miller, Jamaica Plain (vol. 14, 1865). The latter appears to be an addition, and the building has not yet been identified.

The John H. Sturgis Archive contains architectural drawings by the firm of Sturgis and Brigham, office records and correspondence. There is documentation in the form of drawings and correspondence for Pinebank III. A letter from E. N. Perkins to Sturgis also mentions Lemoulnier as the architect of Pinebank II. (Information concerning the Sturgis Archive was kindly made available by Margaret Floyd, Radcliffe Institute Scholar, who is preparing a monograph on Sturgis and Brigham.)

e. Contemporary documents (published)

Austin, Arthur W., Address at the Dedication of the Town House at Jamaica Plain, West Roxbury, Boston, 1868. (US 13187.41.23 - Widener) Synopsis of the history of West Roxbury together with a brief review of the history of its separation from Roxbury.

Ceremonies at the Dedication of the Soldiers' Monument, West Roxbury, Mass., Boston, 1871. (US 13187.41.25 - Widener) Primarily a eulogy but also includes a description of the Monument (pp. 31-32).

Choate, Rufus, Application to Set Off Wards 6, 7 and 8 of Roxbury City as an Agricultural Town, Boston, 1851. (US 13187.41.10 - Widener) Choate, together with Austin, was a spokesman for the petitioners in the successful attempt to separate West Roxbury from Roxbury. Useful as a document in the social and political history of the town.

Gray, Thomas, D.D., "Half-Century Sermon," Boston, 1842. (Boston Public Library, Jamaica Plain Branch) History of the Third Parish (Jamaica Plain) from 1769 to 1842. "Memoranda" (pp. 43-44) gives dates and facts relating to the development of the town and to the use of the land given by the "Apostle" (John) Eliot.



Report of the Committee on the Location and Erection of a Town House, West Roxbury, Mass., 1866. (US 13187.41.23 - Widener; Boston Public Library, Jamaica Plain Branch) Includes as an Appendix a "Description of the Building" by Ware and Van Brunt. Ware and Van Brunt's plan was prepared in order to give the Committee an idea of the cost and does not necessarily mean that they were selected to do the final building. The location recommended by the Committee at this time was not the one finally selected.

2. SECONDARY SOURCES

a. Published

American Architect and Building News, Boston, Mass., 1876-1900. (Athenaeum, Boston Public Library, Fine Arts Library, Harvard and Robinson Library, Harvard) Several Jamaica Plain buildings were published in the American Architect during these years. The American Architect is indexed by locality as well as by building type.

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Drake, Francis S., The Town of Roxbury, Roxbury, 1878. (US 13187.41.15 - Widener; Boston Public Library, Jamaica Plain Branch) Chapters X, "Centre Street", XI, "Jamaica Plain" and XII, "West Roxbury" are relevant. Contains considerable information about old houses and landmarks mixed in with bits of local history. Index and sketch illustrations. Some of the same material is found in Drake's contributions to the Memorial History of Boston, Vols. I-IV, edited by Justin Winsor, Boston, 1881.

Hamlin, Talbot, The American Spirit in Architecture, New Haven, 1926. (2633 H22am - Fine Arts Library, Harvard) Illustration and discussion of 15 Greenough Avenue, Jamaica Plain by William Ralph Emerson, p. 167.

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King's Handbook of Boston, Boston, Mass., 1883. (US 13183.33.5 - Widener) Description and illustration of the Bussey Institution: pp. 133-134. Description and illustration of the Adams Nervine Asylum: pp. 225-226.

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